

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Non-Final Office Action dated March 13, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for courtesies extended during an Examiner Interview with Applicants' representatives held on August 8, 2006.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the Drawings under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a). The Examiner has stated that "[t]herefore, a second gate redundancy line, a second gate contact hole must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered." (Office Action of March 13, 2006 at page 2).

The objection to the Drawings is **traversed** at least for the following reasons.

Applicants' Figure 3 at least shows several gate redundancy lines (229, 249a, 249b) and several gate contact holes (239, 239a and 239b). Because at least Figure 3 shows several gate redundancy lines and several gate contact holes, at least Figure 3 must therefore show a second gate redundancy line and a second gate contact hole. (See also, Specification at [0072] page 11)(stating "[a]dditionally, gate redundancy lines 249a and 249b are formed to connect with the gate electrodes 246a and 246b through the gate contact holes 239a and 239b."). Further, it is clear at least from Figure 3 that different regions are represented in the Figure – for example, a pixel region is shown and at least a plurality of lightly doped drain regions are identified. Thus, there are several gate redundancy lines and not just a single gate redundancy line.

The objection to the Drawings being improper, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the Drawings.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the Specification as "failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter" and requires correction of "'the second gate redundancy line electrically connected with the first gate redundancy line through a second gate contact hole'." (Office Action of March 13, 2006 at page 3).

The objection to the Specification is **traversed** at least for the following reasons.

MPEP § 608.01(o) states in relevant part, “[t]he meaning of every term used in any of the claims should be apparent from the descriptive portion of the specification with clear disclosure as to its import.” The limitation cited by the Examiner is apparent from the descriptive portion of the specification with clear disclosure as to its import at least at paragraphs [00151 – 00154] pages 22-23. Furthermore, the claimed subject matter was part of Applicants’ original disclosure and is thus fully supported in the Specification.

The objection to the Specification being improper, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the Specification.

Rejection of Claims 1-30 Under 35 U.S.C. §112(2)

The Examiner rejects claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §112(2) as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner states that “it is confusing and unclear how a first gate redundancy line can be electrically connected with just one of the gate electrode, gate line.” (Office Action of March 13, 2006 at page 4)(referring to claims 1, 8, 14 and 20). Applicants’ respectfully disagree with the Examiner. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants’ have amended the claims to further clarify claimed features. Thus, the Examiner’s rejection of the claims under §112(2) is believed to be moot.

Claims 1-30 are further rejected by the Examiner. Claims 1, 7, 8, 13, 14 and 24 have been amended, and no claims have been canceled. Claims 1-30 remain pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7-19 and 23-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,215,541 B1 to Song et al. (hereinafter “Song”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,184,947 B1 to Ozaki et al. (hereinafter “Ozaki”). Claims 6 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Song in view of Ozaki and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,307,216 B1 to Huh et al. (hereinafter “Huh”).

The rejection of claims 1-30 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-30 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a

combination of elements including, for example, “a first gate redundancy line formed on the interlayer insulating layer, and connected electrically with just one of the gate electrodes, the gate lines, and both gate electrode and gate line through a ... contact hole and formed of the same material as one of the source and drain electrodes.” None of the cited references including Song and Ozaki, singly or in any combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention.

With reference to Figure 5 of Song, the Examiner has identified reference number (82) as allegedly representing the first gate redundancy line. The Examiner states a “first gate redundancy line (fig. 5, 82) formed on the interlayer insulating layer, and connected electrically with one of the gate electrode (21), the gate line (20) and both the gate electrode (20) and the gate line (20) through a first gate contact hole (72).” (Office Action at page 4). However, in Song, reference number (82) is a conductor pattern. In any event, in Song, the transverse data line connector (64) and the conductor pattern (82) are not redundancy lines. In Song, the transverse data line connector (64), for example, is connected to all of the data lines together. In addition, the transverse data line connector (64) is connected to all of the gate lines together. The conductor patterns (82) are mutually interconnected with all of the gate pads (22). Song is thus completely contrary to Applicants’ claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that claims 1, 8, 14 and 24 and claims 2-7, 9-13, 15-23 and 25-30, which depend from said claims, are allowable over the cited references.

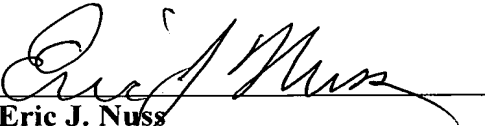
Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 14, 2006

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